

Message Text

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ORIGIN NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 DOEE-00 /114 R

DRAFTED BY USNRC:JDLAFLEUR,JR.
APPROVED BY OES/NET/IM:D B HOYLE
EA/J: D BROWN
ACDA: N HOLLINGSWORTH
-----099975 282313Z /70
P 282156Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 109249

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: NRC ESTABLISHMENT OF OPERATING LIMITS FOR 14
PWR'S

REFERENCE: TOKYO 06814

1. SUMMARY: NRC RESPONDS TO EMBASSY REQUEST FOR MORE
DETAILED INFO ON ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW OPERATING LIMITS FOR
14 PWR'S, AS MENTIONED BRIEFLY IN RECENT TRADE JOURNALS.
END SUMMARY.

2. NRC STAFF ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 4, 1978, THAT IT WAS
ESTABLISHING NEW LIMITS FOR EIGHT UTILITY OPERATORS OF 14
POWER REACTORS MANUFACTURED BY WESTINGHOUSE, FOLLOWING
DISCOVERY OF ERROR IN COMPUTER CODE USED TO CALCULATE
PERFORMANCE OF ECCS. AS RESULT OF ERROR, NRC STAFF HAS
CALCULATED THAT HOTTEST ROD IN CORES OF 14 REACTORS
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(KEWAUNEE, SURRY 1 AND 2, TURKEY POINT 3 AND 4, INDIAN
POINT 2 AND 3, SALEM 1, ZION 1 AND 2, D.C. COOK 1 AND 2,
AND PRAIRIE ISLAND 1 AND 2) COULD EXCEED 2200 DEGREE F.
LIMIT IMPOSED BY NRC IN CASE OF LOCA.

3. TO COMPENSATE FOR ERROR, UTILITIES WILL HAVE TO LIMIT
AMOUNT OF HEAT GENERATED BY HOTTEST FUEL ROD IN REACTOR,

WITH LIMIT VARYING FROM REACTOR TO REACTOR.

4. NRC STAFF HAS ESTIMATED THAT, WITH A FEW POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS, NEW LIMITS WILL PROBABLY NOT RESULT IN ANY DERATING FROM CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED ELECTRICAL POWER LEVELS AFTER OTHER FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT; E.G., MORE FAVORABLE HEAT TRANSFER CONDITIONS PERMITTED BY NRC REGULATIONS AND WAY REACTOR IS OPERATED.

5. NRC, ON APRIL 24, SENT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE COPY OF 8-PAGE PRELIMINARY, REPEAT PRELIMINARY, SAFETY EVALUATION REPORT, CONTAINING MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS, FOR EARLY AIR POUCHING TO EMBASSY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, STANDARDS, NUCLEAR REACTORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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To: TOKYO
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